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side of a lower jaw retaining the symphysis; from Chili Gulch, Calaveras Co., and was submitted to Dr. L.'s inspection by Prof. J. D. Whitney, who is in charge of the California State Survey. The specimen resembles, in its condition of preservation, the Mauvaises Terres fossils of White River, Nebraska. The formula of dentition is the same as in the Indian Rhinoceros, and the proportionate size of the teeth was the same. It was about the size of *R. occidentalis*, or perhaps a trifling degree larger, but its lateral incisors were triple the size. The estimated length of the jaw is about 16 inches. The space occupied by the molar series is 8 inches. Regarding the specimen as indicating a species distinct from any of the preceding, the name of *Rhinoceros hesperius* was proposed for it.

September 26th.

The President, DR. BRIDGES, in the Chair.

Thirty-two members present.

On report of the respective Committees, the following papers were ordered to be published:

On a New Generic Type of SHARKS.

BY THEODORE GILL.

In the year 1858 the Smithsonian Institution received, from Capt. Stone, the jaws and vertebrae of an enormous species of shark existing in the Gulf of California and known to the inhabitants of the neighboring regions as the "Tiburón ballenas," or "whale shark." The specimen represented by the spoils was said to have been "twenty feet long," with a "head six feet wide," "pectorals three feet long" and "flukes six feet between tips." "The back from the head to first dorsal fin, brown with reddish spots." The head is represented as truncated in front.

The dried dentigerous band of the upper jaw is slightly curved forwards, about nineteen inches between the extremities, and somewhat more than an inch in width in front. The teeth are fixed and extremely minute, the largest being little more than a line in length, and decrease towards the ends of the jaw; they are disposed in regularly transverse rows, of which there are over one hundred and sixty (164—167) on each side, while in front there are from thirteen to sixteen in each transverse row; each tooth is recurved backwards and acutely pointed, swollen and with a heel-like projectio in front rising from its base.

This type will be seen, therefore, to be very distinct, but is evidently related to the South African genus *Rhinodon*, and must be referred to the family of Rhinodontidæ with the name of *Micristodus punctatus*.

On two species of DELPHINIDÆ, from California, in the Smithsonian Institution.

BY THEODORE GILL.

While examining the species of Cetaceans, represented by skulls and skins, in the Smithsonian Institution, I discovered two species of Delphinidæ supposed to have been hitherto undescribed. Brief descriptions of these are now submitted; at another time, it is proposed to give more extended descriptions as well as figures.

LAGENORHYNCHUS OBLIQUIDENS, Gill.

The skull in its generic characters agrees with that of *L. leucopleurus*, the 1865.]